

Serial No.: 09/745,965

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## AMENDMENTS

### Amendments to the Specification:

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 7 should be amended to read:

A computer implemented method for selecting nucleic acid probes ~~are~~ is provided. In some embodiments, the methods include steps of inputting quality scores and locations for a plurality ( $n$ ) of candidate probes; selecting  $k$  number of probes from the  $n$  number of candidate probes, wherein the selected probes have a maximum aggregate adjusted quality score; wherein the adjusted quality score is based upon the quality score and the overlapping of the selected probes.